

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 04728 041335Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01  
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00  
/095 W

-----082582 050115Z /70

R 040857Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5113  
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 4728

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PBOR OAU ET SO  
SUBJECT: OUTLOOK POOR FOR OAU MINISTERIAL MEETING ON ETHIO-SOMALI  
DISPUTE

REF: ADDIS ABABA 4684 (NOTAL)

1. DURING CONVERSATION WITH POLCOUNS, OAU ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
GENERAL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS NOUREDDINE DJOUDI  
EXPRESSED SERIOUS DOUBT THAT REQUISITE TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY  
SUPPORT COULD BE MUSTERED AMONG OAU MEMBERS TO CONVENE EMER-  
GENCY SESSION OF OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS TO DEAL WITH ETHIO-  
SOMALI DISPUTE, AS REQUESTED BY ETHIOPIA (REFTEL). DJOUDI,  
WHO IS RANKING OAU OFFICIAL IN ADDIS AT MOMENT, SAID LIBYA  
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WAS ALSO SEEKING EMERGENCY MEETING TO DISCUSS ITS TROUBLES  
WITH EGYPT, WHEREAS OAU WAS HAVING ALL IT COULD DO TO  
DRUM UP SUFFICIENT SUPPORT FOR OCTOBER MEETING IN  
LUSAKA ON WESTERN SAHARA.

2. IN ANY EVENT, DJOUDI FELT THAT NOTHING WOULD BE  
DONE ON MINISTERIAL SESSION, PENDING OUTCOME OF THIS

WEEK'S MEETING IN LIBREVILLE OF AOU MEDIATION COMMITTEE ON ETHIO-SOMALI DISPUTE. HE FEARED THAT THIS MEETING WOULD ALSO BE INCONCLUSIVE, SINCE MEMBER STATES WOULD PROBABLY BE UNWILLING TO TAKE SIDES. ALTHOUGH SOMALIA HAD AGREED TO PARTICIPATE, IT WILL CONTINUE TO DENY THAT IT IS INVOLVED IN HOSTILITIES IN OGADEN. AS RESULT, COMMITTEE WAS UNLIKELY TO ACCEPT ETHIOPIA'S CHARGE THAT SOMALIA WAS COMMITTING AGGRESSION, NO MATTER HOW MANY PHOTOGRAPHS OF CAPTURED SOMALI WEAPONS OR SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT WERE PRESENTED AS EVIDENCE.

3. IN DJOUDI'S VIEW, MOST ETHIOPIA MIGHT HOPE TO GET OUT OF MEETING WAS DECISION TO SEND OBSERVER DELEGATION TO OGADEN TO INVESTIGATE ON SPOT. EVEN THEN, HOWEVER, SOMALIA WOULD ONLY REAFFIRM ITS POSITION THAT, WHILE IT DID NOT HIDE ITS SYMPATHY FOR WESTERN SOMALI LIBERATION FRONT (WSLF) AND WAS PROVIDING SUPPORT, SOMALI ARMED FORCES ARE NOT ENGAGED DIRECTLY. DJOUDI SAID THAT WSLF SPOKESMEN WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO ADDRESS LIBREVILLE MEETING SINCE THEY HAVE NO STATUS IN OAU EYES.

4. DJOUDI TOOK OCCASION TO ADD THAT, LEAVING ASIDE MERITS OF RECENT US ANNOUNCEMENT OF AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO PROVIDE DEFENSIVE WEAPONS TO SOMALIA, TIMING OF ANNOUNCEMENT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN WORSE, COMING AS CONFIDENTIAL

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IT DID IN MIDST OF LIFE AND DEATH STRUGGLE IN OGADEN, AND IN MANNER WHICH MADE CLEAR THAT US HAD MADE ITS BASIC DECISION ON THIS IMPORTANT ISSUE AFTER STEPUP IN AGGRESSION HAD ALREADY TAKEN PLACE. HE FELT CERTAIN THAT MEDIATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS WOULD FEEL OBLIGED TO RAISE US AND UK ACTIONS IN THEIR DELIBERATIONS IN LIBREVILLE IN A WAY THAT WOULD HARDLY REFLECT BEST LIGHT ON OUR DECISION. (SEE ALSO ADDIS ABABA 4619.)

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISPUTES, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, MEETINGS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Expiration:**  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
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**Reference:** 77 ADDIS ABABA 4684  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** OUTLOOK POOR FOR OAU MINISTERIAL MEETING ON ETHIO-SOMALI DISPUTE  
**TAGS:** PBOR, ET, SO, OAU  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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